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UNCLAS GUATEMALA 001103

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: GUATEMALAN EMBASSY IN CARACAS TO OBSERVE APPEALS

REF: SECSTATE 98283

PolOff discussed reftel points with Silvia Corado, Director for Multilateral Affairs at the Foreign Ministry on May 4. Corado agreed that a large international presence is required to guarantee the integrity of the appeals process for revalidating the recall referendum. However, the Guatemalan government's austerity program rules out sending a delegation. Corado said members of the Embassy in Caracas would be seconded to the OAS Observer Mission, but had no additional details to share.
HAMILTON